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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Hong Kong/USSR

SUBJECT Soviet Ship, SS AZOV, in
Hong KongPLACE
ACQUIREDDATE OF
INFO.

25X1C

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO. 25X1A

DATE DISTR. 25 Aug. 1950

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1. On 15 August 1950 the British Port Control Office in Hong Kong advised the Metropolitan Commercial Company (METCO)*, Hong Kong representative of MORTTRANS, that a harbor officer would be detailed to the SS AZOV** on 18 August 1950 to supervise moving the vessel from B20 Buoy to another anchorage, since it was claimed that the Azov had occupied the anchorage too long. This was interpreted on the AZOV as an invitation to leave Hong Kong.
2. Captain Sergeyev of the AZOV is unwilling to leave and claims that the vessel's engines are still unfit for sailing. He wishes to remain in Hong Kong as long as possible and not proceed to Vladivostok as ordered***
3. On 12 August 1950 the Korean boatswain on the AZOV, KIM Hak Ki, committed suicide. Captain Sergeyev stated privately that the reason for this was KIM's belief that his entire family in Konan, North Korea, had been killed in UN air raids. Captain Sergeyev was questioned on shipboard and at Police Headquarters on 14 August, but was apparently cleared. KIM was cremated on 15 August 1950.

* See [REDACTED]

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** See [REDACTED]

*** See [REDACTED]

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